

**SB2076**



**96TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

**State of Illinois**

**2009 and 2010**

**SB2076**

Introduced 2/20/2009, by Sen. Bill Brady

**SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:**

New Act

Creates the Election Whistleblower Hotline Act. Requires the Attorney General to establish a 24-hour statewide hotline to report suspected election misconduct, malfeasance, misfeasance, nonfeasance, or violations of rules, regulations, or laws. Requires the Attorney General to refer allegations to appropriate entities. Allegations may not be anonymous. Provides for promotion of the hotline. Authorizes rewards, subject to appropriation, and provides for confidentiality. Effective immediately.

LRB096 11245 JAM 21658 b

FISCAL NOTE ACT  
MAY APPLY

**A BILL FOR**

1 AN ACT concerning whistleblowers.

2 **Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois,**  
3 **represented in the General Assembly:**

4 Section 1. Short title. This Act may be cited as the  
5 Election Whistleblower Hotline Act.

6 Section 5. Hotline established. The Attorney General shall  
7 establish and maintain a 24-hour statewide toll-free hotline.  
8 The purpose of the hotline is to allow any persons to report  
9 suspected election misconduct, malfeasance, misfeasance,  
10 nonfeasance, or violations of rules, regulations, or laws.

11 Section 10. Hotline information. The Hotline number shall  
12 be prominently posted at all local election authorities and  
13 polling places and on the websites of the State Board of  
14 Elections and Attorney General. The State Board of Elections  
15 shall cooperate with the Attorney General to promote and market  
16 the availability of the hotline and its purpose. All State  
17 informational brochures must carry a description of the hotline  
18 with the toll-free number.

19 Section 15. Allegations. Allegations may not be made  
20 anonymously. Upon receipt of an allegation, the Attorney  
21 General shall promptly refer the allegation to an appropriate

1 venue for further investigation. Referrals may be made to a  
2 United States Attorney, a State's Attorney, the State Board of  
3 Elections, or the Federal Elections Commission.

4 Section 20. Rewards. Subject to appropriation and based  
5 upon standard evaluation and determination procedures  
6 established by rule, the Attorney General shall pay a reward to  
7 whistleblowers. For a successful criminal conviction, the  
8 reward may be up to \$25,000 or an amount equal to half of the  
9 criminal fine imposed. In the case of a successful resolution  
10 of an allegation that does not require criminal prosecution,  
11 the Attorney General may determine an appropriate reward amount  
12 based upon standard evaluation and determination procedures  
13 established by rule.

14 Section 25. Confidentiality. The identity of any  
15 individual providing information or reporting any possible or  
16 alleged election misconduct, malfeasance, misfeasance,  
17 nonfeasance, or violations of rules, regulations, or laws to  
18 the hotline shall be kept confidential and shall not be  
19 disclosed without the consent of that individual. The  
20 confidentiality granted by this Section does not preclude the  
21 disclosure of the identity of a person in any capacity other  
22 than as the source of an allegation.

23 Section 30. Rules. The Attorney General shall adopt rules

1 for the implementation and administration of this Act. Those  
2 rules shall include, but need not be limited to, procedures for  
3 evaluating allegations, for delegating the investigation of  
4 allegations, and for evaluation and determination of rewards.

5 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon  
6 becoming law.